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OO RUEHBC RUEHDE RUEHKUK RUEHROV
DE RUEHBY #1018 1860611
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
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FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7892
INFO RUEHEE/ARAB LEAGUE COLLECTIVE IMMEDIATE
RUEHZG/NATO EU COLLECTIVE IMMEDIATE
RUEHWL/AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON IMMEDIATE 5090
RUEHBN/AMCONSUL MELBOURNE IMMEDIATE 4296
RUEHBAD/AMCONSUL PERTH IMMEDIATE 2653
RUEHDN/AMCONSUL SYDNEY IMMEDIATE 2387

C O N F I D E N T I A L CANBERRA 001018

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E.O. 12958: DECL: 07/05/2017

TAGS: MARR MASS MOPS PGOV PARM PREL LE AS

SUBJECT: DEMARCHE ON HEAVY-CALIBER AMMUNITION FOR LEBANESE ARMED FORCES

REF: STATE 93173

Classified By: Political Counselor James F. Cole for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

¶1. (SBU) Poloff delivered reftel demarche to Adrian Lochrin, Director for Defence Policy and Liaison, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) on July 5, emphasizing the urgency of the issue for the Lebanese Armed Forces and the need for a rapid response.

¶2. (SBU) Lochrin advised the GOA would respond after review at senior policy levels.

¶3. (C) Comment: Embassy defense personnel have learned informally from their defense contacts that the Australian Department of Defense has a quantity of large-caliber ammunition available for transfer, particularly 105 mm rounds. Political or other obstacles may complicate the question of direct shipment of munitions to Lebanon, however, should the GOA take a policy decision to make the surplus stock available to the Lebanese Armed Forces.

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